GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:1228
ANSWERED ON:07.12.2015
Higher Education System
Mohan Shri P. C.;Udhayakumar Shri M.

Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government has noticed that lesser number of students from the country are opting research and higher education in comparison with various other countries abroad;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether the Government has taken any steps to attract the students to opt for research and higher education and to make it affordable; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and if not, the reasons therefor?

Answer

MINISTER OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT
(SMT. SMRITI ZUBIN IRANI)

(a) & (b): The Central Government is constantly engaging itself with increasing access and quality in higher education. There are no globally accepted benchmarks of enrolment in higher education. The Gross Enrolment Ratio (GER) in the country, in higher education is consistently increasing and is 22.6 as per All India Survey on Higher Education (AISHE) 2013-14 (provisional). The ratio gives an indication of the number of students opting for higher education in the country. The number of students who are opting for research (Ph.D and M.Phil) is also increasing. The details of students enrolled in research levels is available in AISHE reports.
(c) & (d): The University Grants Commission is implementing several fellowships and scholarships to attract students towards research. A list of the fellowships and scholarships is available at http://www.ugc.ac.in/page/XII-Plan-Guidelines.aspx .
In order to make higher education affordable the Government is implementing an interest subsidy scheme on loans granted under the Indian Banking Association Model Educational Loan Scheme. Further a Credit Guarantee Fund Trust has been set up by the Government to mitigate the risks and incentivise banks to disburse loans under the loan scheme.
****